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June 16, 2014

Rachel Tennis U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX 75 Hawthorne Street San Francisco, CA 94105

Re:

Yosemite Creek Superfund Site

San Francisco, CA

Company Name: R.J. McGlennon Company, Inc. (Maclac)

Dear Ms. Tennis:

I am writing to follow up on our discussions at EPA on June 4, 2014. In that meeting, Michael McGlennon and I explained the reasons why R.J. McGlennon Company, Inc. (Maclac) should not have been named as a responsible party with respect to the Yosemite Creek Site. At the end of our discussions, we agreed that Maclac would submit a letter and declaration with supporting evidence demonstrating that Maclac has never manufactured or used any of the chemicals of concern at the Yosemite Creek Site. I am enclosing with this letter a declaration from Michael McGlennon as we agreed.

Maclac is a manufacturer of lacquers and coatings, but does not manufacture paints that contain any of the Yosemite Creek chemicals of concern. Maclac's business is primarily low-VOC lacquers and coatings, not interior or exterior house paint. Maclac has never manufactured paints or coatings that contain lead or PCBs. Maclac has never manufactured or sold wood preservative coatings. Maclac has never manufactured or sold coal tar creosote in any of its products.

EPA named Maclac as a potentially responsible party at the Yosemite Creek Site because Maclac was named as a potentially responsible party at the Bay Area Drum Site, and EPA has concluded that hazardous substances released at the Bay Area Drum Site ultimately made their way to the Yosemite Creek Site. The primary chemicals of concern at the Yosemite Creek site are: polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), chlorinated pesticides (DDT, chlordane, dieldrin) and metals (lead, zinc and mercury). Maclac was identified as a potentially responsible party at the Bay Area Drum Site based on its alleged disposal of barrels containing residues of toluene and xylenes. Those chemicals are not at issue with respect to the Yosemite Creek Site. They are also

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volatile, and it is unlikely that they would have migrated from the Bay Area Drum Site to the Yosemite Creek Site.

After our meeting, Maclac conducted an investigation into its historical lacquer and coating formulations. Michael McGlennon, who attended our June 4 meeting, is the longest serving Maclac employee. His father founded the company in 1961. Michael McGlennon joined the company in 1977, and has personal knowledge of all of the product formulations since 1977.

We were fortunate that Maclac was able to retrieve Maclac's historical lacquer and coating formulations from an old DOS-based computer. The following are the 680 VOC formulations and thinner blends that Maclac manufactured during the period 1961 to 1997:

T-150 Lacquer Thinner Blend

T-123 Lacquer Thinner Blend

T-196 Lacquer Thinner Blend

S-67 Lacquer Sanding Sealer

G-26 Gloss Lacquer

F-12 Semi-Gloss Lacquer

U-10/U-11 White Lacquer Undercoat

These are the products that were contained or mixed in the drums that Maclac sent to the Bay Area Drum Site. Copies of the formulations for all of these products are attached to Michael McGlennon's declaration as Exhibit A. None of these formulations contain any of the COCs for the Yosemite Creek Site.

As we discussed during our meeting on June 4, it is imperative that EPA not send a Special Notice Letter to Maclac. Even if EPA never takes enforcement action against Maclac, EPA's designation of Maclac as a responsible party will likely lead other responsible parties at the Site to sue Maclac for contribution. The costs of defending such actions would be catastrophic for Maclac. Maclac has only 12 employees, and is not in a position to defend itself in prolonged litigation.

Under EPA's guidance, EPA will not issue a Special Notice Letter to a party unless there is sufficient evidence to make a preliminary determination of potential liability under Section 107 of CERCLA:

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The RI/FS and RD/RA special notice letter should be sent to all parties where there is sufficient evidence to make a preliminary determination of potential liability under §107 of CERCLA. If there is doubt about whether available information supports issuance of the ... special notices, separate information request letters may be sent to such parties prior to issuing such notice.

Interim Guidance On Notice Letters, Negotiations, And Information Exchange (Mar. 19, 1987) (emphasis added).

In this case, there is *no evidence* on which EPA may make a preliminary determination of liability against Maclac. Maclac's status as a PRP at the Bay Area Drum Site is not in itself evidence of any fact establishing liability for the Yosemite Creek Site. There is no evidence to support a determination that Maclac "arranged for disposal" of any hazardous substance that has come to be located at the Yosemite Creek Site, and none of the other categories of liability under CERCLA apply. Maclac's response to EPA's Section 104(e) information request provides no evidence that would support a preliminary determination of liability.

As we emphasized during our meeting, Maclac is willing to open its doors and provide whatever information EPA would like regarding Maclac's operations and business. Maclac will allow EPA to inspect its site, and Mr. McGlennon will submit additional declarations on issues that EPA may identify and/or submit to a deposition. Under these circumstances, where EPA has full access to all of the available and relevant information, EPA cannot reasonably issue a Special Notice Letter without any factual basis to support a determination of liability.

Very truly yours,

R. MORGAN GILHULY

cc: Michael McGlennon (with enclosures)

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Attorneys for R.J. McGlennon Company

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IN RE: YOSEMITE CREEK SITE

#### DECLARATION OF MICHAEL MCGLENNON

I, Michael McGlennon, hereby declare

- I am the President and owner of R.J. McGlennon Company, Inc. I make this declaration of my own personal knowledge, except where stated on information and belief and, if called to testify to the matters stated herein, I could and would competently do so.
- 2. Maclac is a manufacturer of paints, lacquers and coatings. Maclac has 12 employees. Maclac's business is primarily low-VOC lacquers and coatings, not interior or exterior house paint.
- 3. I am the longest serving current employee of Maclac. My father, R. J. McGlennon, founded the company in 1961. I joined the company in 1977, and I have personal knowledge of the product formulations since that time.
- 4. To the best of my knowledge, Maclac has never manufactured paints or coatings that contain lead or PCBs. Maclac has never manufactured or sold wood preservative coatings. Maclac has never manufactured or sold coal tar creosote in any of its products.
- 5. Maclac was named as a responsible party at the Bay Area Drum Site and entered into a de minimis settlement to settle its liability with respect to that site. The only items that Maclac shipped to the Bay Area Drum Site were barrels that contained residues of VOC

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mixtures. All of Maclac's other wastes were sent to other waste handlers. I was informed that Maclac was named as a responsible party at the Bay Area Drum Site based on the presence of xylenes and toluene residue in the drums that Maclac shipped to that site.

- 6. I have been advised that the chemicals of concern (COCs) for the Yosemite Creek Site are: polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), chlorinated pesticides (DDT, chlordane, dieldrin) and metals (lead, zinc and mercury). To my knowledge, none of Maclac's formulations ever contained any of the COCs for the Yosemite Creek Site.
- 7. After a meeting with EPA on June 4, 2014, I conducted an investigation to find available information regarding Maclac's historical lacquer and coating formulations. Fortunately, I was able to retrieve some of Maclac's historical lacquer and coating formulations from an old DOS-based computer.
- 8. The following are the 680 VOC formulations and thinner blends that Maclac manufactured during the period 1961 to 1997:

T-150 Lacquer Thinner Blend

T-123 Lacquer Thinner Blend

T-196 Lacquer Thinner Blend

S-67 Lacquer Sanding Sealer

G-26 Gloss Lacquer

F-12 Semi-Gloss Lacquer

U-10/U-11 White Lacquer Undercoat

These products are the products that were contained in or mixed in the barrels that were sent to the Bay Area Drum Site.

9. For completeness, I also list here the following 275 VOC formulations and thinner blends that are currently being manufactured today:

T-275 Lacquer Thinner Blend

UCX-9007 White Lacquer Undercoat

SUX-2004 Lacquer Sanding Sealer

LUX-2000 Gloss Lacquer

- 10. True and correct copies of all of the 680 and 275 VOC formulations listed above are attached to this declaration as Exhibit A.
- 11. Maclac also made and sold other products, including primer coatings for steel fabricator companies, industrial maintenance coatings for metal parts companies, and white and black lacquer topcoat for the cabinet shop industry. These products were a small part of the business in comparison to the clear lacquer sales. I have looked for formulations for these products but have not been able to find any from the time period before 1987. To the best of my knowledge, noneof these products ever contained lead or any of the COCs for the Yosemite Creek Site. Moreover, these products were never sold or distributed in drums, only in five gallon and one gallon containers, and Maclac never disposed of containers for these products at the Bay Area Drum Site.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California and the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed this day of June, 2014 at San Francisco, California.

MICHAEL MCGLENNON

### MASTER FORMULA

NAME: T-150 LACQUER THINNER (T-88)

**DATE:** 06-04-2014

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VOLUME MATERIAL LINE CODE WEIGHT

**CODE:** T-150

			 CODE	WEIGHI
1 2 3			=======	
5 6 7 8 9 10 11	1 3	6.00 6.60	SS-400	134.00 66.15 83.82 45.06 222.53 116.00
13 14 15 16 17 18 19 21 22 23 24 25 27 28 29 31 32 33 34 35				

Total Weight : 667.56 Total Volume : 100.00 : 6.68 Density Cost Per Pound : 0.464 Cost Per Gallon: 3.098 Total Cost : 309.80

## MASTER FORMULA

NAME: T-123 LACQUER THINNER DATE: 06-04-2014

**CODE:** T-123

LINE		MATERIAL	CODE	WEIGHT
. 1			=======================================	=======
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	25.00 10.94 13.60 2.98 4.48 34.00 9.00	BUTYL ACETATE ISOPROPYL ALCOHOL 99% ISOBUTYL ALCOHOL ISOBUTYL ISOBUTYRATE LACQUER DILUENT	SS-501 SS-400 SS-302 SS-301 SS-401 SS-102 SS-202	167.50 80.43 89.06 19.96 31.96 206.72 65.52
22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36				

Total Weight : 100.00 661.15 Total Volume : Density : 6.61 Cost Per Pound : 0.513 Cost Per Gallon: 3.391 Total Cost : 339.11

## PHYSICAL PROPERTIES ANALYSIS

Formula: T-196 T-196 LOW VOC LACQUER THINNER

**Date Printed:** 6/4/2014

Class: THINN THINNER BLENDS

HMIS® Codes: H 2 F 3 Ph 0

PPE Codes:

Status: A Active

**Revision:** 1/4/2004

Fixed Cost factor :

IMPROVE BLUSH RESISTANCE

MIR = 1279 G/L

Total Weight:

678.50

Total Volume:

99.92

Cost/LB:

\$ 1.02

Cost/Gal:

\$ 6.91

Density: 6.79

Lead Time:

**Last Made:** 9/10/2001 ·

Total Cost: \$ 690.43

Loss Factor: 3.00%

Output:

Loss Const.: 0.00 LB

Markup Factor: 100.00%
wens Template:

Label Template:

Labor:

Line	Item Key	Loc'n	Description	1	Pounds	Gallons
2	SS-500	SFRM	ACETONE		376.20	56.95
3	SS-501	SFRM	MEK - METHYL ETHYL KETONE	1	87.23	12.99
4	SS-200	SFRM	XÝLENE	1	65.25	8.99
5	SS-503	SFRM	MAK METHYL AMYL KETONE	1	27.20	4.00
6}	SS-600	SFRM	GLYCOL ETHER EB (BUTYL CELLOSOLVE)	1	30.04	4.00
7	'SS-400	SFRM	BUTYL ACETATE	1	62.47	8.49
8	SS-301	SFRM	ISOBUTYL ALCOHOL	1	30.11	4.50

	QUALITY	CONTROL	INFORMATION		
Description	Range Low	Target	Value	Range	High
		07250			

#### PHYSICAL PROPERTIES ANALYSIS

**H** 2

**F** 3 **Ph** 0

0

Formula: 30-S-101 F-12 SEMI-GLOSS LACQUER

Date Printed: 06/04/14

HMIS® Codes: Class: S030

Hi VOC Standard Lacquer PPE Codes:

Status: Ι Inactive

Revision: Discontinued Efka

\* \* \* N/A \* \* \*

Fixed Cost factor :

Total Weight: Total Volume: 401.15 54.98 Density: 7.30

Cost/LB: Total Cost: \$ 414.35 Cost/Gal: \$ 7.54 \$ 1.03 Lead Time:

Last Made: 11/24/04 Output:

Markup Factor: 100.00% Loss Factor: 3.00% Loss Const.: 0.00 LB

MSDS Template: Label Template: 30MSD

Labor:

Line | Item Key | Loc'n Description Pounds | Gallons | **REVISED 9/13/99** FOR AIM REGULATION (THIS IS G-26 BASE) 5 | T-150 | SFRM T-150 LACQUER THINNER 241.50 | 36.12 6 | T-196 | SFRM T-196 LOW VOC THINNER 51.19 | 7.54 ADD BELOW WHILE MIXING 9 | RS-101 | SFRM 1/2 SEC NITROCELLULOSE (STANDARD) 28.38 | 2.69 10 | RS-100 | SFRM | 5-6 NITROCELLULOSE (STANDARD) 7.05 | 0.67 | 11 | RS-400 | SFRM FILTREZ 3320 / HARD RESIN 53.68 | 5.65 | DISSOLVE ABOVE & ADD **BELOW WHILE MIXING** 15 | RL-407 | SFRM | DINP OR PALATINOL N 16.92 | 2.09 | 16 | IAD-208 I SFRM BYK-S732 FLOW-DEFOAMER 50% SOLUTION | 1.10| \* MIX AND ADD 19 | PE-103 | SFRM OK-520 FLATTING PIGMENT 1.32 | 0.08 DISPERSE WELL & CHECK **GLOSS** 

	QUAI	ITY CONTROL INFORMATION	
Description	Range Low	Target Value	Range High
VISC/Z-2/INIT.	: 0.00	25 - 35 (30)	0.00
THIN WITH	: 0.00	T-88	0.00
THIN AMOUNT	: 0.00	100:23 BY WGT.	0.00
VISC/Z-2/THIN	: 0.00	20 - 25 (22.5)	0.00
GLOSS @60 Deg	: 0.00	50 - 60 (55)	0.00

## PHYSICA L PROPERTIES ANALYSIS

Formula: 30-G-100 G-26 HIGH SOLIDS GLOSS LACQUER

Date Printed: 06/04/14 Class: S030 Hi VOC Standard Lacquer

PPE Codes:

HMIS® Codes: H 2 F 3 Ph 0

I Inactive

Status: Revision:

Discontinued Efka

\* \* \* N/A \* \* \*

Total Weight: 732.33 Cost/LB: Lead Time:

\$ 1.04

Total Volume: Cost/Gal:

100.48 \$ 7.60

Density: 7.29

**Total Cost:** \$ 763.81

Last Made: 11/24/04 Output:

Markup Factor: 100.00% MSDS Template:

0

Loss Factor: 3.00% Label Template: Loss Const.: 0.00 LB

Fixed Cost factor :

30MSD

Labor:

SFRM	T-150 LACQUER THINNER	[	439.43	Gallons
	T-150 LACQUER THINNER	I	439 43	05.70
	T-150 LACQUER THINNER	Į.	439 43	05.70
			100,40	65.73
SFRM	T-196 LOW VOC THINNER	1	93.82	13.83
SFRM	1/2 SEC NITROCELLULOSE (STANDARD)	1	52.44	4.97
SFRM	5-6 NITROCELLULOSE (STANDARD)	1	13.04	1.24
SFRM	FILTREZ 3320 / HARD RESIN	1	98.22	10.33
SFRM	DINP OR PALATINOL N		31.38	3.87
SFRM	BYK-S732 FLOW-DEFOAMER 50% SOLUTION	N	4.00	1
	SFRM SFRM SFRM SFRM	SFRM   1/2 SEC NITROCELLULOSE (STANDARD)  SFRM   5-6 NITROCELLULOSE (STANDARD)  SFRM   FILTREZ 3320 / HARD RESIN  SFRM   DINP OR PALATINOL N	SFRM   1/2 SEC NITROCELLULOSE (STANDARD)   SFRM   5-6 NITROCELLULOSE (STANDARD)   SFRM   FILTREZ 3320 / HARD RESIN   SFRM   DINP OR PALATINOL N	SFRM           1/2 SEC NITROCELLULOSE (STANDARD)           52.44             SFRM           5-6 NITROCELLULOSE (STANDARD)           13.04             SFRM           FILTREZ 3320 / HARD RESIN           98.22             SFRM           DINP OR PALATINOL N           31.38

Description	<b>QUALITY</b> Range Low	CONTROL INFORMATION Target Value	Range High
VISC/Z-2/INIT.	: 0.00	25 - 30 (27.5)	0.00
THIN WITH	: 0.00	T-88	0.00
THIN AMOUNT	: 0.00	100:23 BY WEIGHT	0.00
VISC/Z-2/THIN	: 0.00	20 - 25 (22.5)	0.00
GLOSS	: 0.00	80+	0.00

## PHYSICAL PROPERTIES ANALYSIS

Formula: 30-SS-103

S-67/S-66/S-69 HI SOLID SEALER

Date Printed: 06/04/14
Class: S030 Hi VOC Standard Lacquer

PPE Codes:

HMIS® Codes: H 2 F 3 Ph 0

I Inactive

Status: Revision:

DISCONTINUED L9P (COST)

\* \* \* N/A \* \* \*

Total Weight: 732.28

Total Volume:

100.33

Density: 7.30

Cost/LB: Lead Time: 0

\$ 1.02

Cost/Gal: \$ 7.46 11/11/04 Last Made:

Output:

**Total Cost:** \$ 748.43

Loss Factor: 3.00% Label Template:

Loss Const.: 0.00 LB

MSDS Template: 100.00%

Fixed Cost factor : 0

Labor:

Line   Item Key	Loc'n	Description	F	Pounds	Gallons
REVISED 9/13/99		=			
FOR AIM REGULATION	_			2	
4   T-150	SFRM	T-150 LACQUER THINNER	1	409.04	61.19
5   T-196	SFRM	T-196 LOW VOC THINNER	Ĭ.	122.49	18.05
ADD BELOW UNDER AGITATION					
8   RS-101	SFRM	1/2 SEC NITROCELLULOSE (STANDARD)	Ĭ	47.34	4.49
9   RS-100	SFRM	5-6 NITROCELLULOSE (STANDARD)	E	11.59	1.10
10  RS-400	SFRM	FILTREZ 3320 / HARD RESIN	1	88.32	9.29
MIX UNTIL DISSOLVE					
AND THEN ADD:					
14   RL-122	SFRM	52-5205 / 12-035 COCONUT ALKYD 60%	1	24.00	2.77
15   RL-407	SFRM	DINP OR PALATINOL N	1	16.17	1.99
ADD WHLE MIXING					
18   PE-105	SFRM	REGULAR STEARATE BAERLOCHER	I	13.33	1.45
COWLES IN					
<b>南京南南海水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水水</b>					
NOTE: RECORD ANY REWORK					
THAT GOES IN BATCH!!	~			32	
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	QUALIT	Y CONTROL INFORMATION	
Description	Range Low	Target Value	Range High
VISC/Z-2/INIT.	: 0.00	25 - 35 (30)	0.00
THIN WITH	: 0.00	T-88	0.00
THIN AMOUNT	: 0.00	100:23 BY WEIGHT	0.00
VISC/Z-2/THIN	: 0.00	20 - 25 (22.5)	0.00
DRY TIME	: 0.00	15 MINUTES TO SAND	0.00

## PHY-SICAL PROPERTIES ANALYSIS

Formula: 26-9F-102 U-1/U-10/U-11 WHITE UNDERCOAT

HMIS® Codes: H 2 F 3 Ph 1 PPE Codes:

Date Printed: 06/04/14 Class: S026 Hi VOC Lac Prim/Undercoat Pigm Status:

A Active Revision:

DISCONTINUED L9P (COST)

INCREASED BYK-410

Total Weight: 907.54 Total Volume: 100.66 Density: 9.02

\$ 1.10 Total Cost: \$ 1,001.33

Cost/LB: Stead Time: 0 Cost/Gal: \$ 9.95 Last Made: 05/30/03 Output:

Loss Factor: 3.00% Loss Const.: 0.00 LB

Markup Factor: 100.00% SEMSD Template: 26MSD Label Template:

Fixed Cost factor: 26MSD 0 0 Labor:

Line   Item Key	Loc'n	Description	I	Pounds	Gallon: j
REVISED 9/13/99 FOR	<u> </u>				
NEW AIM REGULATION				3.	
THIS USES 2660 PIGMENT SLURRY					
MAKE BELOW CLEAR LETDOWN					
AND THEN ADD 2660 PIGMENT					
SLURRY TO CLEAR					
10   T-150	SFRM	T-150 LACQUER THINNER	I	420.84	62.95
ADD BELOW WHILE MIXING					
13¦ RS-100	SFRM	5-6 NITROCELLULOSE (STANDARD)	1	50.00	4.74
14  RS-101	SFRM	1/2 SEC NITROCELLULOSE (STANDARD)	Ī	15.00	1.42
15   RS-400	SFRM	FILTREZ 3320 / HARD RESIN	1	50.00	5.26
16   RL-407	SFRM	DINP OR PALATINOL N	Ĩ	10.30	1.27
MIX UNTIL DISSOLVED					
ADD 2660 SLURRY					
22   2660.	SFRM	2660 PIGMENT SLURRY/ 26 SERIES	1	360.00	24.87
MIX WELL AND ADD					
26   AD-200	SFRM	BYK-410 ANTI-SETTLE	I	1.40	0.15
MIX IN WELL				3.	

		QUALITY	CONTROL INFORMATION	
Description .	Range Low		Target Value	Range High
VISC/Z-3/INIT.	: 0.00	Marine and the second s	30 - 35 AS MADE	0.00
THIN AMOUNT	: 0.00		T-88/ 100:35 BY WGT	0.00
VISC/Z-2/THIN	: 0.00		25 - 30 AFTER THIN	0.00
COLOR/FIRST STD	: 0.00		FLAT WHITE	0.00
GLOSS @60 Deg	: 0.00		CHECK FOR FLAT	0.00







